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Chairman: Mr. Tomka ..... (Slovakia)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Agenda item 151: Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization *(continued)* (A/C.6/52/L.9 and Corr.1, L.14 and L.8)

Draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.9 and Corr.1

1. **Mr. Mubarak** (Egypt) introduced draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.9 and Corr.1 on the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, sponsored by Brazil, the Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, Indonesia, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Tunisia, Ukraine, Uruguay and Venezuela. Three new preambular paragraphs had been introduced into the draft to take into account the recommendations of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations with respect to the new matter of the working methods of the International Court of Justice. Those three paragraphs should be read in conjunction with paragraph 4, in which the General Assembly invited Member States, the States Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice and the International Court of Justice to present, before the fifty-third session, their comments and observations on the consequences that the increase in the volume of cases before the Court had on its operation. With regard to the supplements to the *Repertoire of Practice of the Security Council* and the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, in paragraph 5 the Secretary-General was requested to make every effort to implement the steps proposed in paragraph 59 of his report (A/52/317 and Corr.1).

2. **Mr. Lee** (Secretary of the Committee) said, with reference to the implementation of those measures, that the Secretariat had met with the representatives of the seven departments and offices involved in the preparation and publication of the supplements and that they had reached the following conclusions. There were two groups of documents in the backlog. The first group consisted of the supplements to the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, which covered the period up to 1985, and the supplements to the *Repertoire of Practice of the Security Council*, which covered the period up to 1988; in order to publish those documents, the seven departments and offices involved would need to invest over 1,000 work-months during the biennium 1998-1999 and the corresponding costs of preparation and publication would be covered by the resources allocated in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999. The second group of documents in the backlog consisted of the supplements to the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* after 1985 and the supplements to the *Repertoire of Practice of the Security Council* after 1988; in order to publish those documents, the necessary resources must be allocated in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 and the question should be raised as the biennium approached.

3. **The Chairman** said he took it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.9 and Corr.1.

4. *Draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.9 and Corr.1 was adopted.*

Draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.14

5. **Mr. Daniell** (South Africa) introduced draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.14 on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions. In the second preambular paragraph, the General Assembly recalled the right of third States confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States to consult the Council with regard to a solution of those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter. In the third preambular paragraph it recognized the desirability of the consideration of further appropriate procedures for consultations to deal in a more effective manner with the problems referred to in Article 50 of the Charter. In the fifth preambular paragraph, it took note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 51/208 of 17 December 1996. In paragraph 1, it renewed the invitation to the Security Council to consider the establishment of further mechanisms or procedures, as appropriate, for consultations with third States as early as possible under Article 50 of the Charter. In paragraph 3, the Secretary-General was requested to pursue implementation of the provisions of General Assembly resolution 50/51 of 11 December 1995, and paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of resolution 51/208 of 17 December 1996. Finally, in paragraph 4, the General Assembly endorsed the proposal of the Secretary-General that an ad hoc expert group meeting should be convened in the first half of 1998 with a view to developing a possible methodology for assessing the consequences actually incurred by third States as a result of preventive or enforcement measures.

6. **The Chairman** said he took it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.14.

7. *Draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.14 was adopted.*

8. **Mr. Hamdan** (Lebanon), speaking in explanation of his delegation's position, said that the draft resolution was of great importance in that it represented a solid basis for ensuring the application of Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.8

9. **Ms. Escarameia** (Portugal) introduced draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.8 on the amendment to rule 103 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. In the draft resolution, it was proposed that rule 103 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly should be amended so that, with effect from the fifty-third session, three Vice-Chairmen would be elected to the Bureau of each Main Committee. That would ensure the representation of all the regional groups in the Bureaux of the Main Committees.

10. **The Chairman** said he took it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.8.

11. *Draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.8 was adopted.*

12. **Mr. Taub** (Israel) said that his delegation supported the draft resolution introduced by Portugal, because its objective was equitable representation for all the regional groups in the Main Committees of the General Assembly. However, he registered a protest that his country was not permitted to be a member of any regional group. That undermined the principle of equitable geographical representation and he requested that the situation should be corrected.

13. **Mr. Hamdan** (Lebanon) said that the system of regional groups had been adopted by a consensus of Member States; there was therefore no reason to change it. Furthermore, only those countries which did not meet their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations were excluded from the regional groups.

14. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 151.

The meeting was suspended at 10.45 a.m. and resumed at 11.05 a.m.

Agenda Item 152: Measures To Eliminate International Terrorism (*continued*) (A/C.6/52/L.24)

Draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.24

15. **Mr. Holmes** (Canada), introducing draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.24, said that it was based essentially on General Assembly resolution 51/210 and he indicated some of the changes which had been made. In the second preambular paragraph, the words "*Recalling* all its relevant resolutions" had been added. At the end of the sixth preambular paragraph, a reference had been added to the reform proposals of the Secretary-General. In paragraph 3, paragraph 3 of resolution 51/210 had been condensed. Paragraph 6 contained an important amendment concerning the role that relevant international and regional organizations could play in bringing the perpetrators of terrorist acts to trial. Paragraphs 9 to 13 were paragraphs that were contained in the draft decision proposed by the Russian Federation; during the informal consultations it had been agreed by the participants that the draft decision should be merged with the resolution so that there would be a single document on the item. In paragraph 14, the General Assembly would decide to include in the provisional agenda for the fifty-third session the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism". Lastly, he expressed the hope that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

16. **Mr. Hamdan** (Lebanon) said that originally the intention had been to add a footnote to the draft resolution listing the resolutions referred to in the second preambular paragraph, but some delegations had felt that the list would be too long and that it would not be appropriate to include it in a draft resolution. During the informal consultations, therefore, the Secretariat had been asked to enumerate those resolutions in the next report on the issue. Lastly, he emphasized that the draft resolution demonstrated the determination of all delegations to work closely together to combat international terrorism.

17. **Mr. Akbar** (Pakistan) said that his delegation wished to associate itself with the statement made by the representative of Lebanon. It had participated actively in the discussions on the complexities inherent in the issue of terrorism and was fully prepared to cooperate in efforts to address those complexities. The Sixth Committee had undertaken its work taking full account of the complex nature of the issue, including the issue of its definition. The essential task before the Sixth Committee was to delineate different trends and synthesize efforts to combat international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with a view to making the fight more inclusive and consensual. In its resolutions, the United Nations had established a broad framework to pinpoint the multiple facets of that threat to civilization. At its fortieth session, the General Assembly had urged all States to contribute to the elimination of the causes underlying terrorism and to pay special attention to colonialism and to situations involving flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, such as alien occupation, that might give rise to acts of terrorism and might endanger international peace and security. In its resolution 46/51, the

General Assembly had provided additional guidelines in an attempt to strike a balance between different perceptions on the issue of terrorism. The deliberations in the United Nations on the issue should take place in full conformity with its tradition and its mandate to evolve a comprehensive and objective view of international terrorism. His delegation noted that draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.24 took fully into account the relevant resolutions on measures to eliminate terrorism and it was prepared to continue to work with the Committee to achieve its objective. It therefore joined the consensus on the draft resolution.

18. **Mr. Taub** (Israel) said that his delegation had participated actively in the informal consultations on the draft resolution and was pleased to join the consensus. He pointed out, however, that it had not been informed about the holding of consultations, either formal or informal, on the request that the Secretariat should prepare a commentary or footnote to the resolution. If there were to be consultations on that matter, he wished to state that his delegation was interested in participating.

19. **Mr. Mubarak** (Egypt) said that he wished to seek clarification with regard to paragraph 9. He wished to know whether the wording of paragraph 9 would allow those organizations that enjoyed observer status in the General Assembly to participate in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee in 1998, since no explicit reference to that effect was made in the paragraph, nor in General Assembly resolution 51/210.

20. **The Chairman** said it was his understanding that it was the wish of the Committee that the same rules and conditions should apply to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee and the Working Group as had previously been applied to those organs.

21. After a procedural discussion in which **Mr. Mubarak** (Egypt) and **Mr. Rosenstock** (United States of America) took part, **the Chairman** said that, if he heard no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft resolution.

22. *Draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.24 was adopted.*

23. **Mr. Sandsten** (Norway) said that his delegation joined the consensus on the draft resolution which had just been adopted. However, it wished to register its objections to certain aspects of the draft resolution. It had reservations with regard to the open-endedness of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee. It did not support the idea of a comprehensive convention against terrorism, since that would be a very difficult project. The best approach would be to promote the adherence of States to the more focused international agreements which already existed in that field, in particular the international convention for the suppression of terrorist bombings which had recently been adopted. His delegation therefore reserved its position with regard to the eighth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution.

24. **Mr. Dahab** (Sudan) said he was gratified that the draft resolution had been adopted by consensus. It was one more instrument to combat terrorism, one of the scourges which afflicted the international community. It was important, however, to ensure the full implementation of that resolution. His delegation had had the honour of proposing paragraph 5 of the draft resolution and it hoped that paragraph would help to strengthen peace, security and stability in the world so that States could focus primarily on the economic and social development of their peoples.

25. **Mr. Obeid** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that his delegation had joined the consensus for the adoption of the draft resolution since it wished to contribute to the elaboration of practical measures which would lead to the elimination of international terrorism. In that connection, he emphasized the need to formulate a clear and generally accepted definition of international terrorism. He also reaffirmed the need to make a distinction between international terrorism and the struggle of peoples living under the yoke of foreign occupation and the right which those peoples had to liberate their territory, in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations and the provisions of international law, since the struggle for liberation was not a form of terrorism. In order to protect the rights of people living under the yoke of occupation, it was essential to establish international standards which would guarantee those rights and make a distinction between international terrorism and the struggle of peoples against foreign occupation.

26. He thanked the sponsors of the draft resolution for having included a reference to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, which he interpreted as a reference to General Assembly resolution 46/51, and to the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, which emphasized the importance of the exercise of the rights of peoples to self-determination, in particular those peoples living under the yoke of colonialism, occupation or foreign exploitation, as well as the right of peoples to take legitimate measures, in accordance with the United Nations Charter, to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination.

27. His delegation welcomed the fact that, in paragraph 4, States were requested to avoid the dissemination of

inaccurate or unverified information on matters related to terrorism. It also welcomed the wording of paragraph 8, which reaffirmed the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee established by the General Assembly in its resolution 51/210.

28. The Syrian Arab Republic, a country which had been subjected to numerous terrorist attacks, had participated in the consensus, was a party to the various international conventions against terrorism, and was fully prepared to cooperate at the international level to combat terrorism.

29. **Mr. Roth** (Sweden) said that his delegation had joined the consensus on the resolution just adopted, although it did have some doubts, particularly regarding preambular paragraph 8, which referred to the possibility of considering in the near future the elaboration of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism. His delegation did not endorse the idea of a comprehensive convention covering all aspects of terrorism, since it believed that the elaboration of such a convention would be a very difficult undertaking. It would prefer the more practical solution of drafting specific legal instruments as needed.

30. **Mr. Rao** (India) welcomed the spirit of consensus in which draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.24 had been adopted. He said that, at the same time, he wished to stress that the international community regarded the sectoral and unsystematic approach taken in the past towards combating terrorism, particularly in the early 1970s, as neither satisfactory nor appropriate for dealing with the latest technology and most recent manifestations of terrorism. At the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, a process of filling in the gaps in the international legal framework had begun. In that connection, the Sixth Committee had recently adopted the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, in keeping with a practical, undogmatic approach. His delegation was therefore surprised, in view of the spirit in which the General Assembly had adopted resolution 52/210, that a particular paragraph or word in the preamble to draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.24 should now be criticized. The inadequacy of the piecemeal approach would be fully remedied when the commitment made in resolution 51/210 was fulfilled; that commitment was to adopt, first of all, an international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism and, subsequently, a comprehensive convention on international terrorism. That had been the plan of action. The first step — the adoption of an international convention for the suppression of terrorist bombings — had already been taken; now, no effort should be spared in endeavouring to carry out the rest of the plan. Consequently, any attempt now to alter the text of the resolution, or to specify terms that should be used in it, in full knowledge of the ambiguity that each and every term contained, would merely jeopardize the consensus that had just been reached.

Agenda item 149: Report Of The Committee On Relations With The Host Country (*continued*) (A/C.6/52/L.10/Rev.1)

31. **The Chairman** invited the representative of Cyprus to report on the outcome of the informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.10/Rev.1.

32. **Mr. Moushoutas** (Cyprus) announced that Spain had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution. He said that as a result of the informal consultations it had been agreed that operative paragraph 7 of the draft should be amended so that it read:

> "*Requests* the Committee to review its membership, to consider various proposals with the participation of observers, and to report on the results of its deliberations to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly at its fifty-third session".

33. A number of interested delegations had suggested that the word "various" should be deleted, and he had no objection to that suggestion. Moreover, it had been agreed during the consultations that the review of the Committee's membership referred to in paragraph 7 of the draft should cover all aspects of the Committee's membership.

34. **Ms. Cueto Milián** (Cuba) said that it was not for the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, which was a body with limited membership, to decide on its composition or on whether its membership should be increased. It was the General Assembly that had that power. However, as a compromise, her delegation had not insisted on submitting a separate resolution requesting that the Committee on Relations with the Host Country should be made into an open-ended body.

35. It was, nevertheless, a matter of concern to Cuba that attempts should be made to confuse delegations with respect to the powers of the General Assembly, or that an endeavour should be made to give the wrong interpretation to the resolution under which the Committee on Relations with the Host Country had been established. The General Assembly and the Sixth Committee could decide at any time to convert a subsidiary body with limited membership into an open-ended body. Moreover, the General Assembly could request the Secretary-General to report to it at any

time without such a request having additional financial implications.

36. As everyone knew, the Committee on Relations with the Host Country had an extremely limited membership — it had only 15 members — and its decisions were taken by its officers, which reduced even further the possibility of participating in its work; in addition, in that Committee there was the ever-present threat of the veto.

37. Her delegation did not support the conclusions reached by the representative of Cyprus; it therefore wished to propose the following amendment to the English version of operative paragraph 7 of draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.10/Rev.1: "*Requests* the Committee to review its membership and composition with the participation of observers, to consider proposals regarding its membership and composition, and to report on the results of its deliberations to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly at its fifty-third session". The Spanish version should read: "*Pide* al Comité que examine con la participación de observadores la cuestión de su composición y el número de sus miembros, que examine propuestas relativas a su composición y el número de sus miembros y que presente un informe sobre los resultados de sus deliberaciones a la Sexta Comisión de la Asamblea General, en su quincuagésimo tercer período de sesiones".

38. **Mr. Rameez** (Malaysia) said that since the establishment of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, in 1971, the membership of the United Nations had increased considerably, from 132 to 185 members. Moreover, the issues dealt with by that Committee were of concern to all Member States. The fact that many Member States and observers had participated actively in the meeting held by that Committee in March 1997 was encouraging. In view of the problems confronting that Committee, his delegation believed that its membership and composition should be reviewed. It was therefore ready to support the proposal put forward by Cuba.

39. **Mr. Sergiwa** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that his delegation had some doubts about operative paragraph 7: it was for the General Assembly or the Sixth Committee, not the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, to review the latter's membership.

40. **Mr. Rosenstock** (United States of America) said that there was nothing improper or odd about requesting a committee to make recommendations regarding its membership. Such a request had been made to the Special Committee on the Charter a few years earlier, and there had not been any problems. Nobody was disputing which organ took final decisions; in the case under consideration, however, it was a question of recommendations.

41. His delegation wished to stress the importance of adopting all resolutions by consensus; since the Sixth Committee had before it a draft proposed by the representative of Cyprus, it should adopt that draft by consensus and delegations that had difficulties with the text should make statements to that effect.

42. **Mr. Obeid** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that the issue under discussion was very important and that he endorsed the explanation given by Cuba and the proposal that it had put forward.

43. **Ms. Cueto Milián** (Cuba) said that her aim was for the Committee on Relations with the Host Country to be converted into an open-ended body; in her delegation's view, the amendment read out by the representative of Cyprus did not reflect the compromise reached. She wished to request the Chairman to put to a vote the most recent amendment put forward, which was her delegation's amendment.

44. **Mr. Moushoutas** (Cyprus) said that the amendment that he had read out did in fact reflect the agreement reached as a result of the informal consultations, during which no mention had been made of using the expression "membership and composition".

45. **Ms. Cueto Milián** (Cuba) insisted that paragraph 7, as orally amended by Cyprus, should be reworded so as to make a reference to the Committee's membership and composition.

The meeting was suspended at 12.15 p.m. and resumed at 1 p.m.

46. **Mr. Moushoutas** (Cyprus) said that the informal consultations of the Bureau of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country had not produced any agreement. However, he wished to propose that the amendment to paragraph 7 of the draft resolution submitted by Cuba should be changed to read: "*Requests* the Committee to review its membership in all its aspects with the participation of observers, to consider proposals regarding its membership and to report on the results of its deliberations to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly at its fifty-third session".

47. **Ms. Cueto Milián** (Cuba) thanked the representative of Cyprus for his efforts. However, since those delegations which did not want to include any reference to the composition, as had been done with respect to other bodies such as the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations, the Special Committee on Peacekeeping

Operations or the Security Council, had not put forward a convincing argument, she was requesting a recorded vote on her delegation's amendment.

48. **Ms. Castro de Barish** (Costa Rica) requested that the latest proposal of the delegation of Cyprus should be adopted by consensus since it covered all aspects of the question.

49. **Mr. Buchli** (Netherlands) urged the Cuban delegation to consider that its amendment was covered by the words "in all its aspects", thus making it unnecessary to proceed to a vote.

50. **Mr. Patriota** (Brazil) said that, while he agreed with the underlying issue raised by the Cuban delegation and also agreed with the amendment proposed by that delegation in document A/C.6/52/L.23, he believed that the latest proposal by the delegation of Cyprus would allow the draft resolution to be adopted by consensus since it mentioned all aspects of the question.

51. **Mr. Hamdan** (Lebanon) said that the Committee on Relations with the Host Country should be given as clear and comprehensive a mandate as possible in order to permit States to make any proposals that they might deem useful for improving the functioning of the Committee. For that reason, he endorsed the amendment proposed by the delegation of Cuba.

52. After a procedural discussion in which the delegations of Cuba, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela, Pakistan, Honduras and Cyprus and the Secretary of the Committee took part, **the Chairman** decided that a recorded vote would be taken on paragraph 7 of draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.10/Rev.1, as orally amended by the delegation of Cuba.

53. **Mr. Buchli** (Netherlands), speaking on a point of order, said that his delegation had not had an opportunity to give due consideration to the proposals made by the representative of Cuba. As he understood it, the confusion with respect to the draft resolution stemmed from the translation of the words "membership" and "composition" into the different languages. In any case, his delegation could not vote without having received instructions from its Government.

54. **Mr. Koffi** (Côte d'Ivoire) wished to know exactly what the Committee was voting on, since the texts proposed by the delegations of Cuba and Cyprus were the same in some languages.

55. **Mr. Karev** (Russian Federation), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that his delegation had difficulties with the amendment proposed by the Cuban delegation, since the words "composition" and "membership" were synonymous in Russian. He wondered whether the word "composition" had a wider meaning; in that regard, the wording used in paragraph 7, as amended by the delegation of Cyprus, was almost identical to that used in General Assembly resolution 49/58. His delegation would be opposed to singling out any one aspect of the issue, and therefore could not support the proposal put forward by the Cuban delegation.

56. **Ms. Castro de Barish** (Costa Rica) said that her delegation was not in a position to vote in favour of the proposed amendment, since the wording of the Spanish text would be redundant.

57. **Mr. Welberts** (Germany) said that, although he had followed the discussions on that matter very closely, especially the Cuban proposal, he still failed to understand the difference between membership and composition. He still did not know exactly what was being considered and felt it was unfortunate that the Committee was forced to proceed to an unnecessary vote. His delegation was therefore not in a position to support the Cuban proposal.

58. **Mr. Balde** (Guinea), speaking on a point of order, requested clarification as to the difference that might exist in French between words which appeared to have the same meaning.

59. **The Chairman** announced that a recorded vote would be taken on paragraph 7 of draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.10/Rev.1, as orally amended by Cuba.

60. At the request of the representative of Cuba, a recorded vote was taken on paragraph 7 of draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.10/Rev.1.

61. The results of the vote were as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia.

Against:

Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Fiji, Georgia, Germany,

Honduras, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Russian Federation, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zimbabwe.*

Abstaining:

Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo.

62. **The Chairman**, in response to a point of order raised by **Ms. Cueto Milián**(Cuba), announced that there had been a problem with the electronic voting mechanism and that Cuba should be included among the delegations that had voted in favour of the amendment.

63. *Paragraph 7 of the draft resolution was adopted by 42 votes to 20, with 48 abstentions.*

64. **The Chairman** suggested that the Committee should adopt draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.10/Rev.1, as amended, without a vote.

65. **Mr. Rosenstock** (United States of America) said that his delegation would have preferred the draft resolution to have been adopted by consensus. Unfortunately, in view of the manifest bad faith that had prevailed during the last hour of the debate, his delegation wished to request a vote. It would abstain.

66. *At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a non-recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.10/Rev.1, as amended.*

67. *Draft resolution A/C.6/52/L.10/Rev.1, as amended, was adopted by 120 votes to none, with three abstentions.*

68. **Mr. Buchli** (Netherlands), speaking in explanation of vote, said he regretted having had to vote without being afforded the opportunity to consult his Government. He hoped that the delegations that had requested the vote would reconsider their position in future, since it undermined the credibility of their proposals. For that reason, and because he had not received instructions in that regard, he had abstained in the vote on the proposed amendment to paragraph 7. On the other hand, he had joined the large majority in voting in favour of the draft resolution since he would have liked the Committee to have adopted it by consensus.

The meeting rose at 2.15 p.m.

* The delegation of Zimbabwe subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote in favour of the Cuban amendment.